

27 October 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Meeting between SAC Representatives and Project Officers

1. Project AQUATONE officers held a meeting with Cols. Briggs and Heran of SAC regarding the status of our joint activities. The meeting began by Col. Briggs presenting several questions in order to clarify areas of responsibility between us. Specifically, he informed us that Col. ~~Schindler~~<sup>Shindler</sup> has been appointed deputy to Col. Yancey and will act as their officer responsible for coordinating materiel and development projects with us. He will develop transport requirements regarding cubage and weight for transport of AQUATONE equipment overseas and, in addition, he will review and assist in the development of the materiel concept of support. In this respect, I asked Col. Briggs for a SAC support plan as soon as possible. It was agreed that his HQ materiel office and Col. ~~Schindler~~<sup>Shindler</sup> will start work on this paper as soon as possible.

2. SAC was invited to attend the Air Defense Command meeting on 11 November. It was agreed that Col. Yancey, Col. McCoy, Col. Berg, Col. Briggs, and the AQUATONE staff will meet in Washington and discuss ADC participation and responsibility in the Project.

3. Mr. Bissell suggested that Col. Yancey be present for the 31 October suppliers meeting. This would be an excellent opportunity for him to meet all of the personnel with whom he will be in contact during the training phase.

4. Col. Briggs expressed the desire that the Base B Commander be named and that he be on board and become familiar with his responsibilities as soon as possible. SAC has a nomination for this space (Col. Perry) and will submit it to HQ Air Force for processing.

5. SAC was concerned over their support responsibilities. For the record we reviewed the present concept of this support. It was specified that (a) SAC would not be responsible for any aircraft or equipment maintenance activity; (b) specialized logistics support will be the responsibility of the AQUATONE materiel complex; (c) logistics support associated with normal Air Force activities and materiel will be a primary SAC responsibility; (d) HQ USAF will arrange for the procurement and transportation of special fuel; however SAC may possibly be involved in fuel transportation in some areas overseas; (e) consumable items drawn from Air Force stock will be levied against the SAC Support Unit by our overseas bases; it will be SAC's responsibility to procure these items of equipment; (f) SAC will be responsible for overseas housing, messing, ground transportation and generalized base support functions; this may be handled directly by SAC or through their own coordination with the overseas commanders.

6. We discussed at length the lack of a coordinated targeting system. It was agreed that the development of a target list was the first order of business and must be developed in the immediate future. Accordingly, a committee composed of one officer from Gen. Samford's office (Air Force Intelligence), one from SAC HQ, and one from Project

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AQUATONE will be established. This committee will meet on the 8th of November, outline the problem and develop a complete target listing for Project AQUATONE. Thereafter the committee will remain on call in order to keep the target listing current.

7. A discussion with Col. Briggs regarding the SAC Support Unit indicated that no action has been taken to man this group. Col. Briggs agreed to develop a T/O for the SAC Support Unit and man it. The Unit will be headed by a Lieutenant Colonel and manned with approximately 50 positions.

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8. Col. Briggs stated that SAC has submitted another nomination for the CO position at [REDACTED] Col. McConnell is available for this assignment and could be on board by the first of December. We agreed that Mr. Bissell would interview Col. McConnell in the morning and if he proved satisfactory, action will be started to obtain him for this position.

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9. With regard to the assignment of aircraft to the test base, it was agreed that all aircraft other than the L-20 and the C-47 bailed to Lockheed will be assigned to SAC under Col. Yancey's training group at March AFB. SAC will be responsible for the maintenance support of all aircraft. The L-20 and the C-47 are to be assigned to [REDACTED] and remain there for emergency use. Col. McCafferty agreed to procure a crew chief/engineer for the C-47. This eliminates any requirement for AQUATONE to increase our T/O to handle maintenance and support of these aircraft.

10. Considerable discussion was held on the training phase of the project. It was agreed that Col. Yancey will develop a training program

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and schedule as soon as possible. The training plan will be based on the present knowledge of aircraft capabilities and requirements for attaining pilot proficiency under full profile mission flights. It was agreed that all operational pilots will conduct several profile missions before they can be considered qualified for combat operations. The training plan should be developed as soon as possible and incorporated in AQUATONE's operational planning schedule.

11. Several officers requested copies of the latest AQUATONE T/O. The revised T/O will be reproduced in several copies and transmitted to all agencies concerned.

12. We discussed the operational scheduling plan and each agency presented progress to date on this subject. Since all data was of a preliminary nature, we agreed that a meeting should be held in the near future to develop a plan mutually coordinated by SAC, the Air Force, and the Agency. The 8th of November was picked for the meeting date. In the meantime SAC and the AQUATONE staff will continue to develop independently their concept of the plan.

13. With regard to the administration of flight records (Form 1 and Form 5) it was agreed that all AQUATONE flight records will be maintained by Bolling Air Force Base. SAC will maintain records of all pilots assigned to Col. Yancey's group at March Field. These arrangements are for normal Air Force aircraft flights only. Special consideration will be given to flight records associated with the Project aircraft. It was concluded that Col. Yancey will establish a records section at the test base and maintain flight records on each individual flying the

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Project aircraft. In the future these records will be incorporated in the normal system.

16. We reviewed the status of USAF pilot procurement for operational missions. We will pursue this activity as rapidly as possible. Col. Briggs suggested that we consider some pay increase for sortie rates since some pilots will undoubtedly fly more missions than others and should be paid for their efforts.

17. This meeting was lengthy and many subjects discussed. In my opinion the meeting was fruitful and all participants came closer to an understanding of their responsibilities. It is apparent that continued contact with all participants is necessary to expedite the planning phases of Project AQUATONE.

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Deputy Project Director